International Astronomical Union



Founded in 1919, the International Astronomical Union (IAU) is the world's largest professional body for astronomers. Its mission is to promote and safeguard the science of astronomy in all its aspects, including research, communication, education, and development, through international cooperation. The IAU collaborates with scientific organizations all over the world.

The IAU serves as the internationally recognised authority for assigning designations to celestial bodies and the surface features on them.

IAU's 12483 Individual and Junior Members are from 108 countries and participate in 9 Executive Committee Working Groups, 9 Divisions, 38 Commissions and 46 Working Groups.

IAU also has four offices: Office of Astronomy for Development, Office for Astronomy Outreach, Office for Young Astronomers and Office of Astronomy for Education.



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